

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A fluid dynamic pressure bearing apparatus comprising:

a radial dynamic pressure bearing formed in a gap portion between a bearing member and a shaft member;

a thrust dynamic pressure bearing including a first thrust bearing portion formed between a top surface of the thrust plate and a first facing member opposing thereto in the axial direction and a second thrust bearing portion formed between a bottom surface of the thrust plate and a second facing member opposing thereto in an axial direction; ~~and~~

dynamic pressure generating grooves formed on the radial dynamic pressure bearing and the thrust dynamic pressure bearing,

wherein either the shaft member or the bearing member is rotated as a rotation member and the other of the shaft member or the bearing member is a fixed member, such that the rotation member is supported in a position that a gap space (L1) of the first thrust bearing portion is larger than a gap space (L2) of the second thrust bearing portion during a normal rotating state and the depth of the dynamic pressure generating grooves where the gap space is smaller is formed shallower than that where the gap space is larger; and

a biasing means for urging the rotation member toward the fixed member to make the rotation member elevate from the fixed member at startup, the biasing means including a magnet and a magnetic attraction plate for urging the rotation member toward the fixed member at startup.

2. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising a lubricating fluid filled within the radial dynamic pressure bearing and the thrust dynamic pressure bearing.

3. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the lubricating fluid is air.

4. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the lubricating fluid is lubricating oil.

5. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the grooves are arranged in a herringbone pattern.

6. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the grooves are arranged in a spiral pattern.

7. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein dynamic pressure is generated by the lubricating fluid when the dynamic pressure generating grooves rotate such that either the bearing member or the shaft member elevates in a radial and thrust direction.

8. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the depth of the dynamic pressure generating grooves in the thrust bearing portion in which the gap is smaller is determined by the maximum value of coefficient of elasticity of the thrust bearing portion.

9. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the depth of the dynamic pressure generating grooves of the thrust bearing portion in which the gap is smaller is in the range of about 0.8 times to about 2.8 times of its gap space dimension.

10. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein each of the depths of the dynamic pressure generating grooves in the first and second thrust

bearing portions is determined by the coefficients of elasticity having a maximum value.

11. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the first facing member is the bearing member and the second facing member is a counter plate mounted to the bearing member.

12-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~22~~ 1, wherein said biasing means makes or contributes to form the gap space (L2) smaller or narrower than the gap space (L1) during rotation.

24. (Canceled)